In the Claims

1-41 (cancelled).

42 (currently amended). A method for ~~inhibiting the expression of Dengue virus genes within a human host suffering from~~ attenuating Dengue virus (DV) infection in human cells susceptible to DV infection *in vivo*, said method comprising ~~intravenously~~ administering to the ~~host~~ cells *in vivo* an effective amount of a vector comprising at least one gene suppressing cassette, wherein said gene suppressing cassette comprises a polynucleotide operably-linked to a promoter sequence, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a short interfering RNA (siRNA) molecule that reduces expression of a target ~~Dengue virus~~(DV) gene within the ~~host~~cells by RNA interference, and wherein the polynucleotide sequence is transcribed to produce the siRNA molecule.

43-51 (cancelled).

52 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein said vector comprises a plurality of gene suppressing cassettes.

53 – 55 (cancelled).

56 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4.

57 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein the vector is conjugated with chitosan ~~or a chitosan derivative~~.

58 (cancelled).

59 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein said target gene comprises a target sequence, and the target sequence is common to ~~4~~ four serotypes of ~~Dengue virus~~DV.

60 – 63 (cancelled).

64 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein the vector is a non-viral vector.

65 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein the vector is a viral vector.

66 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein the vector is ~~a viral vector selected from the group consisting of adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, poliovirus, lentivirus, herpes simplex virus, and murine Maloney-based virus~~ an adenoviral vector or adeno-associated viral vector.

67 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein the vector is an adeno-associated ~~virus~~viral vector.

68 (cancelled).

69 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein the siRNA molecule ~~reduces Dengue virus-induced apoptosis of dendritic cells in the host~~ attenuates DV replication in the cells.

70 (cancelled).

71 (currently amended). The method of claim 42, wherein said target gene comprises a target sequence within the 3' untranslated region (UTR) common to ~~all~~ four DV serotypes.

72 (currently amended). A method for inhibiting Dengue virus (DV) infection and DV-induced apoptosis of human dendritic cells *in vivo*, comprising administering to the cells *in vivo* an effective amount of a vector comprising at least one gene suppressing cassette, wherein said gene suppressing cassette comprises a polynucleotide operably-linked to a promoter sequence, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a short interfering RNA (siRNA) molecule that reduces expression of a target Dengue virus gene within the host by RNA interference, wherein the polynucleotide sequence is transcribed to produce the siRNA molecule.

73 (previously presented). The method of claim 72, wherein the cells are subsequently exposed to DV, and the siRNA molecule inhibits DV infection and DV-induced apoptosis in the cells.

74 (currently amended). The method of claim 72, wherein the the vector is an adeno-associated ~~virus~~ viral vector, and the vector does not induce acute inflammation in the dendritic cells.

75 (previously presented). The method of claim 72, wherein the cells are human dendritic cells of the blood.

76 (cancelled).

77 (currently amended). The method of claim 72, wherein said target gene comprises a target sequence within the 3' untranslated region (UTR) common to ~~all~~ four DV serotypes.

78 (previously presented). The method of claim 72, wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4.

79 (currently amended). The method of claim 72, wherein the vector is an adeno-associated ~~virus~~ viral vector.

80 (previously presented). The method of claim 42, wherein the siRNA moleeule has a hairpin structure.

81 (previously presented). The method of claim 72, wherin the siRNA molecule has a hairpin structure.

82 (new). The method of claim 72, wherein said target gene comprises a target sequence common to four DV serotypes.

83 (new). The method of claim 72, wherein the vector is conjugated with chitosan or a chitosan derivative.